UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/974,838	10/12/2001	Toshio Kitazawa	214892US-2	7380

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
07/17/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/974,838	KITAZAWA, TOSHIO
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark R. Milia	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 April 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *15-19* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-14* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   Applicant's amendment was received on 4/12/07 and has been entered and

made of record. Currently, claims 1-19 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 4/12/07 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

The applicant asserts that the combination of Richter (US 6,678,068) and Hall

(US 5,805,166) does not disclose "a display means for displaying, either dynamically or

successively, which different processes the image data is undergoing at any given

moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing, the

display means comprising a plurality of different individual distinct display components

aligned in a successive progression from image data reception to data printing to

successively indicate the different processes from image data reception to data printing,

and that are displayed simultaneously on a display portion". The examiner respectfully

disagrees as the combination of Richter and Hall does disclose such a feature.

Particularly, Richter discloses displaying different processes that image data is

undergoing at any given moment, as seen in Figs. 7-20 and 26-27, column 11 lines 46-

58 and column 20 line 36-column 21 line 13. Richter shows the ability to track a plurality of image data dynamically from reception to RIPping to spooling to printing and shows the status of a plurality of image data on a display simultaneously (Fig. 27). Thus, Richter discloses all the necessary elements that would allow a user to obtain which different process the image data is undergoing at any given moment. However, Richter fails to disclose that individual distinct display components are aligned in a successive progression and that these components are displayed simultaneously. Hall discloses individual distinct display components are aligned in a successive progression and that these components are displayed simultaneously. Particularly, Hall discloses a plurality of icons with connection segments that display the status of the icons and the connection segments. The icons and connection segments are displayed simultaneously and are individual distinct components aligned in a successive progression to convey the status of the icons and the connection segments from a computer to an application database. Hall also states that the configuration of Figs. 2A-2H is an example of the invention and one possible use but acknowledges that modifications can be made to obtain the benefits of the invention (see column 11 lines 32-43). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the icons shown in Hall with icons that represent image data reception, RIPping, spooling, printing, etc., Richter shows the need to display the status of these processes, and dynamically and successively show the status of these processes in a manner similar to that disclosed by Hall. Richter and Hall

are in fact from a similar field of endeavor as both relate to displaying the status of

processes taking place in an electronic environment.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-14, as set forth in the previous Office Action,

is maintained and repeated in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can

be found in a prior Office action.

4.   Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Richter (US 6678068) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5805166 to Hall, Jr. et al.

Regarding claims 1 and 14, Richter discloses a printing apparatus comprising:

image data input means for receiving input data (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 5 lines 7-9,

and column 7 lines 40-42), image data processing means for processing the image data

and drawing the image data in an image memory unit (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 7 lines

58-62, and column 8 lines 1-4), printing means for forming an image on a transfer sheet

using the image data drawn in the image memory unit (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 5

lines 7-9, column 6 lines 9-29, column 7 lines 33-39, and column 8 lines 1-3), and

display means for displaying, either dynamically or successively, which different

processes the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image

data reception and ending with image data printing, the display means comprising a

plurality of display components from image data reception to data printing that indicate

the different processes from image data reception to data printing and that are

displayed simultaneously on a display portion (see Figs. 7-20, and 26-27, column 11

lines 46-58, column 10 line 48-column 11 line 6, and column 20 line 36-column 21 line

13, reference shows that a display is used to display messages concerning the state of

an image file such as "spooling", "waiting to rip", "ripping", "waiting to print", and

"printing" and that a display of queues can be viewed to show which queue image data

is currently in, which sufficiently cover at any given moment which process image data

is undergoing).

Richter does not disclose expressly the display means comprising a plurality of

different individual distinct display components aligned in a successive progression from

image data reception to data printing to successively indicate the different processes

and wherein the display is part of a printing apparatus.

Hall discloses the display means comprising a plurality of different individual

distinct display components aligned in a successive progression from image data

reception to data printing to successively indicate the different processes (see Figs. 2A-

2H, column 2 lines 26-52, column 2 line 66-column 3 line 8, column 4 lines 21-26,

column 4 line 48-column 5 line 29, column 5 line 41-column 6 line 3, and column 6 line

64-column 7 line 3).

Although Richter does not disclose wherein the display is part of the printing

apparatus it is well known in the art for printing devices to contain a display as can be

seen by Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide (see pages 5-13 to 5-27,

particularly pages 5-13, 5-14, 5-18, and 5-22), and therefore it would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate a display as part of the printing apparatus.

Richter & Hall are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, displaying the status of peripheral devices.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the plurality of different individual distinct display components aligned in a successive progression to successively indicate the different processes being displayed simultaneously on a display portion, as described by Hall and the display being part of the printing apparatus to view the different processes the image data is undergoing, as shown by Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide, with the system of Richter.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide easier accessibility to the status of image data by allowing a user to access the information from the printing device in addition to accessing this information for the user's workstation or print server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Hall with Richter to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1 and 14.

Regarding claim 2, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spooling display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being received by the printing apparatus (see column 11 lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 3, Richter further discloses wherein the display means
comprises as one of the plurality of display components a drawing display component
that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being drawn in the
image memory unit of the printing apparatus (see Fig. 12, column 7 lines 58-62, column
8 lines 1-4, and column 11 lines 51-54, reference shows a display message that refers
to the ripping process which is analogous to the drawing process of the claim and
therefore is anticipated by the reference).

Regarding claim 4, Richter further discloses wherein the display means
comprises as one of the plurality of display components a printing display component
that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being printed by the
printing apparatus (see column 11 lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 5, Richter further discloses wherein the display means
comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spool data display component
that indicates successively an amount of unprocessed image data not yet drawn in the
image memory unit from among that image data which has been received by the
printing apparatus (see Figs. 26 and 27 and column 20 lines 46-49).

Regarding claim 6, Richter further discloses wherein the display means
comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spool data display component
that displays the amount of unprocessed image data on a per-print-job basis (see Figs.
26 and 27 and column 20 lines 46-49).

Regarding claim 7, Richter further discloses wherein the display means
comprises as one of the plurality of display components a drawing page display

component that displays pages of image data in the process of being drawn in the
image memory component of the printing apparatus (see Fig. 29 and column 21 lines
51-61).

Regarding claim 8, Richter further discloses wherein the display means
comprises as one of the plurality of display components a printed page display
component that displays pages of image data in the process of being printed by the
printing apparatus (see Fig. 29 and column 8 lines 8-10 and 51-61).

Regarding claim 9, Richter further discloses wherein the display means
comprises as one of the plurality of display components a saved job display component
that displays a list of print jobs stored in the image memory component of the printing
apparatus (see column 8 lines 1-4).

Regarding claim 10, Richter further discloses a selectable plurality of supply trays
for containing transfer sheets ready to be sent to the printing means, wherein the
display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a supply tray
display component that indicates a selected one of the supply trays (see Fig. 15 and
column 12 lines 27-38).

Regarding claim 11, Richter further discloses a selectable plurality of exit trays
for receiving printed transfer sheets exited from the printing means, wherein the display
means comprises as one of the plurality of display components an exit tray display
component that indicates a selected one of the exit trays (see Fig. 17 and column 12
lines 56-64).

Regarding claim 12, Richter further discloses wherein the display means displays

a graphic image message that indicates which process the image data is undergoing at

any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data

printing (see Fig. 12 and column 11 lines 46-58).

Regarding claim 13, Richter further discloses wherein the display means displays

a text message that indicates which process the image data is undergoing at any given

moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing (see

Fig. 12 and column 11 lines 46-58).

Allowable Subject Matter

5.   Claims 15-19 are allowed.

Conclusion

6.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.
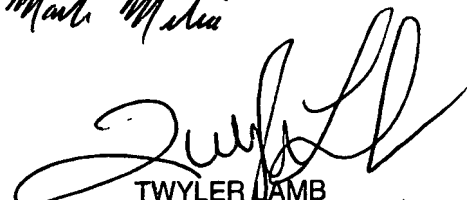
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark R. Milia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7408. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached at (571) 272-7406. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mark R. Milia
Examiner
Art Unit 2625

MRM

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER